

THE PICTORIAL UNION.

A HOLIDAY SHEET, FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY.

JAMES ANTHONY & CO.,
No. 21 J STREET, SACRAMENTO.

SACRAMENTO, JULY 4, 1854.

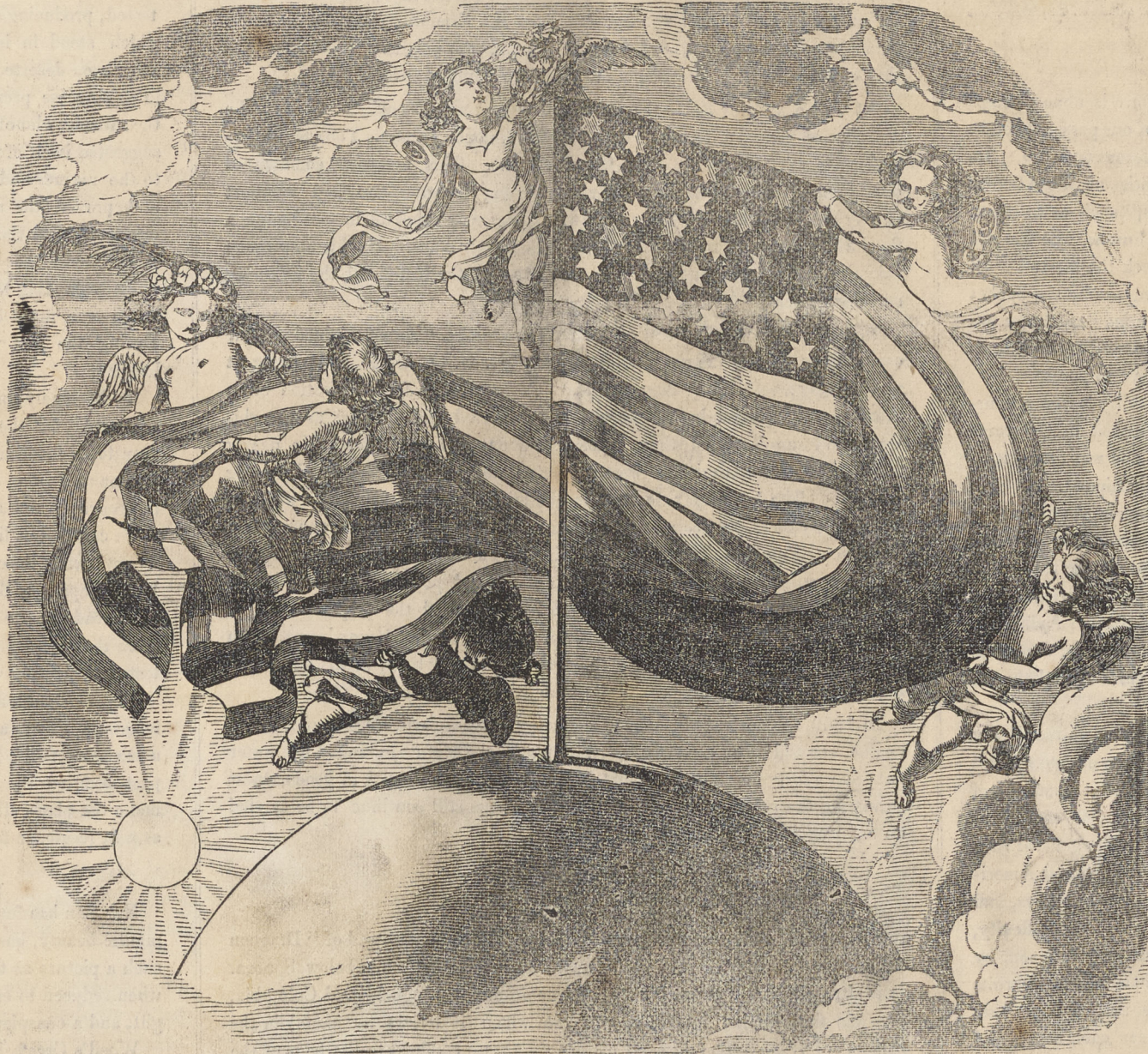
{ DOUBLE NUMBER,
PRICE, FIFTY CENTS.

TO THE AMERICAN FLAG.

When freedom from her mountain height
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
And set the stars of glory there!
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldric of the skies,
And striped its pure celestial white
With streakings from the morning light;
Then, from her mansion in the sun,
She called her eagle bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land!

Majestic monarch of the cloud!
Who rear'st aloft thy regal form,
To hear the tempest trumping loud,
And see the lightning lances driven,
When strides the warrior of the storm,
And rolls the thunder-drum of heaven
Child of the sun! to thee 'tis given
To guard the banner of the free—
To hover in the sulphur smoke,
To ward away the battle-stroke,
And bid its blendings shine afar,
Like rainbows on the cloud of war,
The harbinger of victory!

Flag of the brave! thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph high!
When speaks the signal trumpet's tone,
And the long line comes gleaming on;
Ere yet the life-blood, warm and wet,
Has dimm'd the gleaming bayonet—

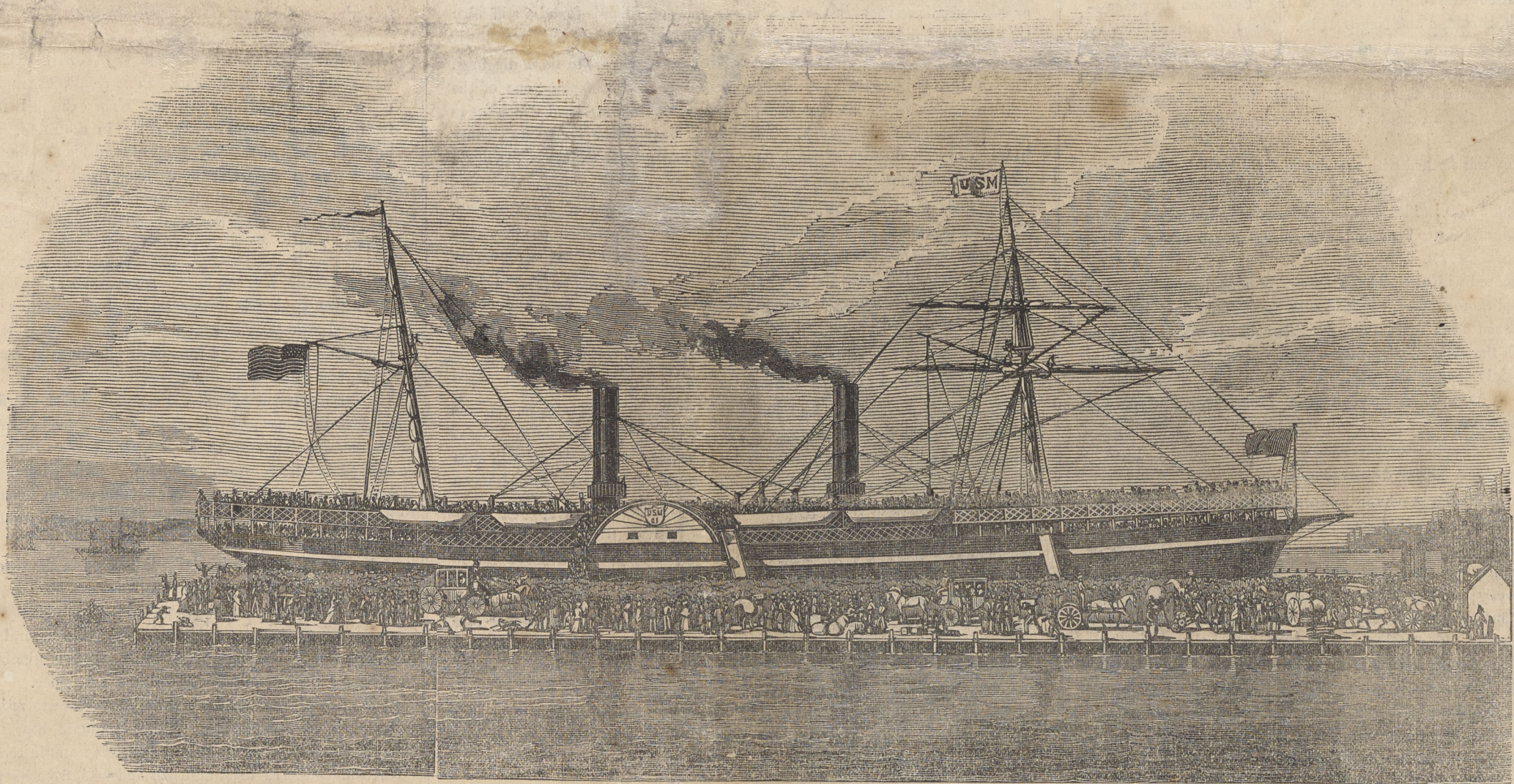


Each soldier's eye shall brightly turn,
To where thy meteor glories burn,
And as his springing steps advance,
Catch war and vengeance from the glance!
And when the cannon's mouthings loud,
Heav' in wild wreaths the battle shroud,
And gory sabres rise and fall,
Like shoots of flame on midnight pall!
There shall thy victor glances glow,
And cowering foes shall fall beneath
Each gallant arm that strikes below
That lovely messenger of death!

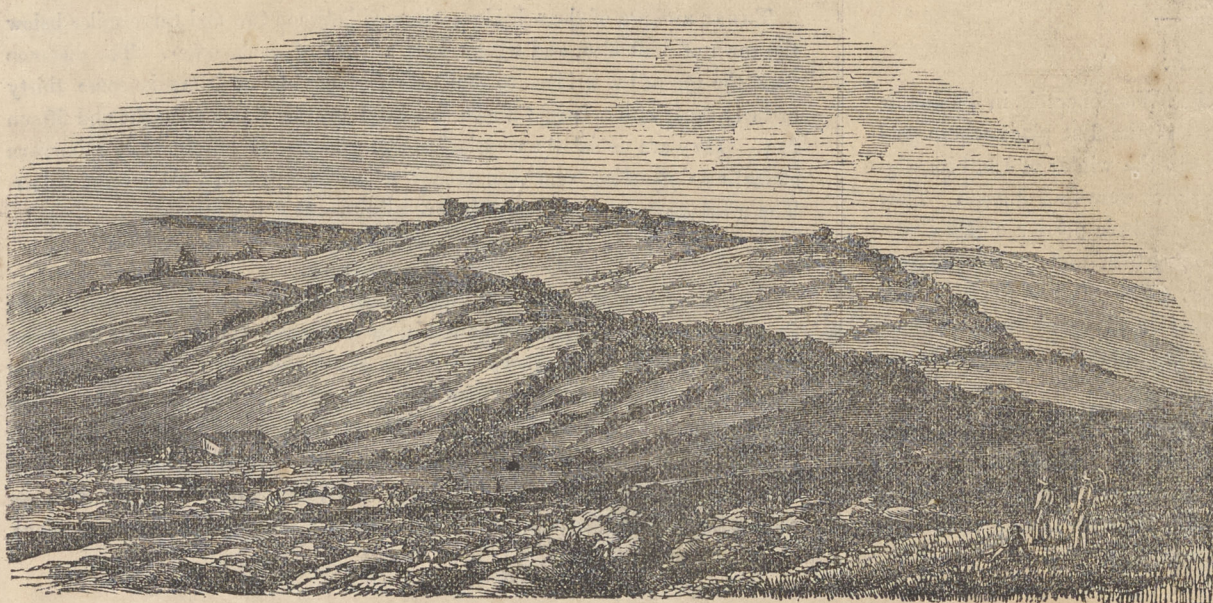
Flag of the seas! on ocean's wave,
Thy stars shall glitter o'er the brave.
When death, careering on the gale,
Sweeps darkly round the bellied sail,
And frightened waves rush wildly back
Before the broadside's reeling rack;
The dying wanderer of the sea
Shall look at once to heaven and thee,
And smile to see thy splendors fly,
In triumph o'er the closing eye.

Flag of the free heart's only home,
By angel hands to valor given!
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues were born in heaven;
For ever float that standard sheet;
Where breathes the foe but falls before us,
With freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And freedom's banner streaming o'er us!

[Drake and Halleck.]



DEPARTURE OF AN ATLANTIC STEAMER.



SAN ANDREAS.



SHAW'S FLAT.

PICTORIAL UNION.

SACRAMENTO, JULY 4, 1854.

INTRODUCTORY.

We herewith offer the eighth number of the PICTORIAL UNION to the public for their entertainment, and we trust our efforts to present them with a meritorious and acceptable sheet have proved successful. The extensive circulation of the previous numbers of the PICTORIAL, together with the many favorable notices which they have elicited from the press have not only been duly appreciated, but encouraged us in the increased outlay of time, labor and expense which the present number has necessarily imposed upon us. The superb heavy bodied calendered paper composing the material of this PICTORIAL was manufactured expressly for us; the engravings have all been sketched by our own artist, Mr. Thomas Armstrong, on the spot, or transferred from the daguerotype, and the descriptions and explanations of the various scenes represented are from the pen of "an eye witness." As the illustrations are all peculiarly Californian, it is presumed that the PICTORIAL will prove of special interest to those on the Atlantic side who have friends in the Eureka State.

MOKELUMNE HILL.

OF ALL the numerous mining localities of California, there is none perhaps with a name more difficult to pronounce than the subject of our present sketch. And, indeed, there have been few that were richer in auriferous treasure. Its name has been resounded from the center to the extremities of the Atlantic States, and nearly always in connection with "big strikes," such as to excite the interest if not the avarice of the emigrating gold hunter, who has not unfrequently been led to believe that he had only to seek the blessed "El Dorado," and stick his spade down, to turn up the shining ore by the bucket full. How many have been disappointed in this too sanguine expectation we shall not pause to relate. Private family history keeps a record of the failures which it would not be of sufficient interest for the public eye to peruse.

Mokelumne Hill, (or *Me-cal-a-mi* Hill, as it is pronounced,) is now a flourishing town of several thousand inhabitants. It is situated in Calaveras county, about a half mile from a river of the same name, and was first settled in 1849, by a few soldiers belonging to Col. Stevenson's regiment. In September of the same year, a party of seven Frenchmen commenced working the mines in Valentine's Gulch, adjoining, and after realizing handsome fortunes, returned to *la belle France*. About this time the camp gained the reputation of being good winter diggings, and among the number of Americans who settled there were Messrs. Wm. L. Dudley, Daniel Clark, Samuel Ayliff, and Alex. Boritzhoff, all of whom are still residents of the county. Mr. James B. McKinnie, the present Postmaster, erected the first frame store at Mokelumne Hill in 1849, in which he conducted a lucrative business.

In 1851, a party of Frenchmen discovered a "lead" of gold of extraordinary richness, in a hill directly adjoining the camp, which was then christened and has ever since continued to bear the name of "French Hill." The news of this discovery was soon trumpeted abroad, which had the effect of concentrating thousands of miners from all nations at that point. In the general rush to secure claims, a dispute arose between a party of Frenchmen and Americans, which caused a fight between the parties, in which pistols, knives, and guns were freely used. A general declaration of war grew out of this difficulty, having its origin among only ten or a dozen men. Messengers were sent by the opposing forces to the different surrounding mining localities for recruits and arms, which were not slow to come in at the summons, and on the following day two small armies were assembled, encamped near each other, and breathing a defiance of deadly hatred.

At this juncture of affairs, negotiations were entered into, the Frenchmen pulled down the tri-colored flag and dispersed—some to resume their work, and others to quit a country where they could enjoy no further pleasure.

Many other rich discoveries of gold followed the restoration to peace—principally on French, Stockton and Negro Hills. These continued runs of good fortune attracted an avalanche of settlers to the place, and in a very short time, the camp of two or three hundred men had increased to three or four thousand. Since that time the town has steadily increased in population and improvement, till at this moment it presents every appearance of a long settled village.

In 1852, a company was formed with the view of furnishing the Mokelumne Hill diggings with water, and in the year following the work was completed at an expense of over \$300,000. The canal containing this abundant supply has since been tapped, and water conveyed from it by means of submerged pipes to all portions of the town.

The reader is presented with two different views of Mokelumne Hill—one exhibiting its principal thoroughfare, crowded with the activity and bustle of trade—the other as seen from a distance, with its bold mountain scenery in perspective, by which the effect of the picture is heightened and the contours of the village laid plainly open to the gaze.

We are indebted to Wm. L. Dudley, Esq., of Mokelumne Hill, for our view and sketch of the town.

A VIEW IN JACKSON.

JACKSON is the name of a large mining town in Amador county, fifty miles southeast of Sacramento. It is incorporated, and contains, within the corporate limits, a population of 1,500. It is situated on the main or middle fork of Jackson creek, at its junction with the north and south forks of the same, and is four miles directly north of the Mokelumne river. The town is surrounded by excellent surface diggings, the best of which are found between it and Volcano, on the north. The middle, south and north forks of the creek have been worked to advantage, and gulches emptying into these are probably as rich as any other in the State. A great difficulty has been encountered in the absence of water, which is in part overcome by the construction of several ditches, in which that element is conveyed from the south and middle forks of the creek, and will be wholly so, on the advent of the supply to be furnished by the Jackson Water Company, whose work taps the Mokelumne river about twenty miles above.

Jackson is a sort of business center for all the country lying between Mokelumne river and Dry creek. It is increasing in population and buildings more rapidly, probably, than any of its contemporaries. At the present time it contains over one hundred frame buildings, many of them substantially constructed, and extending to the height of two stories. Many houses are also in process of erection. Mr. A. C. Latson, architect, of Sacramento, is engaged in erecting a large two-story brick building for Fixary & Co., merchants, on the main street. Adams & Co.'s agency in Jackson is doing an excellent business—often purchasing over one thousand ounces of gold dust per day. Their office here is one of the first, in point of character and importance, that is in the mines.

Gold digging at Jackson was first commenced in the summer of 1849. The town and creek were both named after one of the pioneer miners. In May, '50, it contained only three log houses and seven tents. Since that time it has been gradually improving and increasing, till it now promises to become one of the most important of the mining towns.

The Jackson Water Company is pushing forward its work with as much rapidity as possible, and its speedy completion will have a most beneficial bearing upon the prosperity of the town. Two lines of stages leave Sacramento every day for this region—one passing through Lone Valley, and the other via Drytown.

HAWKIN'S BAR.

THE engraving presents us with one of those bold designs of mechanical genius which are by no means common or singular in the history of California mining operations. Hawkin's Bar, a place of considerable fame in the local annals, is situated on the Tuolumne river, about seventy miles distant from Stockton. It was settled in July, 1849, and derives its name from the first trader, whose provisions and merchandise supplied the temporal wants of its early settlers. Later in the season, when the swollen currents of the river had receded, many rich deposits of gold were discovered in its bed. In some instances as high as from \$300 to \$500 to the pan were taken out, which caused a rapid influx of population; so that by October between five and six hundred tents might have been seen to whiten its vicinity. About this time divine service was held on the bar by a Rev. Mr. Franklin, from New Orleans, which was numerously attended by the miners, who blended their voices with that of the minister of the gospel in praises to Almighty God.

At Hawkin's Bar it is said the first company was formed for turning the river, composed of 108 members, of which Colonel Samuel Youngs (an ex-Alderman of Sacramento) was the President. This company commenced operations in September, and after completing its enterprise, had but just clearly got to work in the river bed, when the early rains set in, producing a flood which entirely demolished and carried off their dams. By this unforeseen calamity, the original design of the company was frustrated till the following summer season.

Hawkin's Bar was first settled by five Oregonians, who were joined in their early labors by Col. Youngs, brother, and Mr. H. C. Kibbe, (the latter at present also a resident of Sacramento.) A proposition for the election of an Alcalde was rejected by the miners, who preferred Col. Youngs as an arbitrator and umpire in all their differences about titles to claims. In nearly every instance his decisions were respected, and harmony and good feeling restored. The immense rock seen in the middle of the river, has a width of some eighty feet. A crossing from the opposite bank to this rock was effected by Messrs. Youngs & Kibbe falling a pine tree across the intermediate space. This log may also be seen occupying a horizontal position, with one of its ends resting on the margin of the water, just beyond the projection of the bluff bank. It was the fruitful cause of many a scene of merriment, when the foot-passenger, in attempting to cross it with a "brick in his hat," lost his balance, and went floundering into the water beneath.

In 1850 the partially disbanded company re-organized, purchased a steam engine, erected it on the rock, as exhibited in the picture, pumped the water out from a forty foot hole immediately below, and went to work in good earnest exhuming the precious metal. Mining operations still continue to be carried on extensively in the same locality.

SHAW'S FLAT.

THIS name has been given to an extensive plateau at the head of "Dragon Gulch," which empties into Wood's Creek, about a half mile below Sonora. It is situated nearly midway between Sonora and Springfield and Columbia, and was first settled by Mr. Shaw (from whom it derives its name) in the summer of 1849. The diggings at that time were confined to the beds of the ravines emptying into Dragon Gulch. During the following spring new discoveries were made, and the camp rapidly grew into importance, and is now among the richest auriferous localities in the southern mining region. The surface of a portion of the ground is covered with huge boulders of limestone or other primitive rock, in the irregular crevices of which is found a stiff clay that yields a handsome profit of coarse gold to the labor of the sedulous miner.

Two separate ditches furnish ample supplies of water to these diggings. One of these is known as the ditch of the Shaw's Flat Company, one of the first enterprises of the kind established in the southern mines, and which draws its water from Sullivan's creek. The other belongs to the Tuolumne County Water Company,—both of which pour down their genial tribute of the liquid element throughout the year.

The little town of Shaw's Flat is becoming the scene of much gayety. Balls, routs, excursions and parties are things of very common occurrence—owing, no doubt, to the fact that it is blessed with the presence of a number of pretty girls, who bring the gentlemen up to the *tac* of gallantry, and share the treasures of their bright smiles with them in return for their kind offices bestowed.

SCENE AT THE FORKS OF NELSON'S CREEK.

NELSON CREEK empties into the Middle Fork of Feather river. It was discovered by Mr. Nelson in 1849. The view here exhibited is in Plumas county, six miles east of Onion Valley. It contains two stores, with such articles of merchandise as are suited to the wants of miners. The skeleton bridge, over which a man and horse are passing, was erected by Mr. James Sherwin, and is the third that has occupied the same position—two former ones built by the same gentleman, having been swept away. It conducts into the American Valley. A principal portion of the trade of the place is carried on at Marysville. A trail crosses the mountain on which a pack train is seen to descend—from the base of which mountain to its top is a distance of four miles. Coarse gold is found in the diggings of this locality, which have proved exceedingly rich. In the near vicinity of this spot, Poor Man's, Hopkins, Jameson, and Dickson Creeks—all mining streams, empty into Feather river. A flume spans the creek a short distance above Sherwin's bridge, through which that gentleman is about to conduct the water into the mines of the vicinity from Independence Bar, some eight or ten miles above.

A ball was given here in August of last year, at which some fifty ladies were in attendance from the surrounding neighborhood.

Some two miles below this point there are also good diggings, at Kimmell's Flat, where an excellent saw mill is in successful operation.

WOOD'S CROSSING.

THE little town bearing this name is located at Wood's creek, in Tuolumne county, about a mile below Jamestown. It was the first place where gold was found in any abundance beyond Sonora. In the winter of 1848 its diggings, which have continued to pay well ever since, were first opened. They are inferior to no other mining locality in the southern portion of the State. Several times has the bed of the creek been worked over, and on each separate occasion proving amply remunerative to labor. The sides of the hills have also been sluiced to some extent, and are found to pay good wages. These are supplied with water introduced through the ditches of the Tuolumne Water Company and the Hydraulic Company.

Wood's Crossing is the center of a large and populous auriferous region, containing, in addition to its placer diggings, several quartz-ledges, in contemplation soon to be worked by capitalists at present engaged in erecting the necessary machinery for that purpose. The town is distant about four miles from Sonora, and five from Tuolumne river.

DRYTOWN.

DRYTOWN is situated on the stage road from Sacramento to Jackson, in Calaveras county. It is equi-distant from the Mokelumne river on the south, and the Cosumnes on the north. Its name is derived from that of the creek by which it is watered, viz: *Rio Seco*, or Dry Creek. Although thus named, the creek is never absolutely dry. Its waters are, however, during the summer month so far reduced as to cause a suspension of extensive mining operations.

The first settlement of the town was in 1849, when the diggings were found to be very rich, and by the autumn of the following year, the population had been augmented to a very considerable degree. A scarcity of water in the winters of '50-'51 prevented the full richness of the mines from being fairly tested, producing a highly deleterious influence upon the prosperity of the town, which stood in imminent danger of being depopulated, and would probably have been deserted, but for the fact that purchasers of property were as scarce, in the inverse proportion, as sellers were numerous. Consequently, many of the citizens who otherwise would have left, were thus detained, until the idea suggested itself of diverting the waters of the creek from their natural channel to the ravines and banks of the stream. The project was at once adopted, and proved the salvation of the place. Gradually there was a return of deserters, with the addition of others from different nations of the globe, until it was found that the village was represented by nineteen different tongues! Notwithstanding the creek bed and gulches adjoining have been worked several times over, marked success has invariably attended the industry of the miner. During the past winter an unusual degree of prosperity has attended the locality.

To become permanently prosperous, Drytown requires only the construction of a canal for the introduction of more water, which desideratum promises soon to be furnished by the "Sutter, Jackson and Drytown Water and Mining Company," from currents of the Mokelumne river. Operations are already in progress; and as the organization is based upon a capital of \$250,000, there can be but little doubt of its entire success.

Drytown is the center of several enterprising mining camps. Among others, Willow Springs, Rancheria and Amador. As many as a dozen quartz-mills are already in operation, or in process of construction, in the vicinity, in which more than \$100,000 have been invested. Most of the leads that have been tested are paying well, and are considered inexhaustible in extent.

Drytown contains a post-office, express-offices, several hotels and trading houses, a Protestant and Catholic churches, an excellent public school, and a Division of the Sons of Temperance. Public morals have for some time past been on the increase, and the American residents seem determined to make the place all that it should be, not only for sobriety and industry, but as a fit residence for their wives and families.

WOOD'S CREEK, TUOLUMNE COUNTY.

NATURE has furnished the artist with a scene in this view, which, for romantic beauty, has few parallels on any of the rivers of the State. It is just such a picture as the imagination would conjure for a fancy sketch, and which, when reduced to embodiment on the canvass, would be entitled to a frame of gilt, and a conspicuous showing on the walls of some richly furnished parlor.

Wood's Creek, in Tuolumne county, contains many striking beauties in its scenery. That before us was taken at a point near the city of Sonora. It exhibits a party of industrious miners in the foreground, diligently employed with the "long tom," and toiling with a spirit of hope and cheerfulness which are known only to those who are independent in all things, as miners invariably feel who are "going it on their own hook."

Wood's Creek was discovered in the winter of 1848-49, by an adventurous miner whose name has been given to it,—until which time it was not known that gold existed in any considerable quantities further south than Carson's creek. More gold, however, has been exhumed from Wood's Creek than from any other stream of similar size in the State. Its waters take their rise in the foot-hills of the Sierra Nevada, above Sonora, and after running twenty miles, receive the waters of Sullivan's and Cortes creeks, which it empties, with its own volume, into the Tuolumne river at Jacksonville. Gold is found the whole length of the creek, affording employment to several thousand miners.

MONTEZUMA.

THE engraving is a very correct representation of the south half of the beautiful little town bearing the foregoing name. It is situated in Tuolumne county, on the stage road from Sonora to Stockton—nine miles from the former place, and is of recent origin.

In the spring of 1852 it was discovered that the flats upon which the town now stands contained valuable deposits of gold. In June of the same year, Messrs. James T. Hoyt, D. Perry and Wm. Innes laid out the town and erected buildings, which example was rapidly followed until the place sprung into a thriving existence. The mining district is supplied with water by the ditches of the Tuolumne County Water Company and the Tuolumne Hydraulic Association.

New diggings are being daily discovered in the vicinity of Montezuma, which have attracted a large number of miners to that point. Inclusive of this portion of the population in the immediate vicinity of the town, it contains about two thousand inhabitants. It boasts several fine buildings which are not shown in the engraving, among which is the beautiful express-office of Adams & Co., partially occupied as a post-office.

Montezuma is a healthy and desirable place to reside, with sublime scenery on all hands surrounding. Table Mountain, near this place, has a perpendicular altitude from its base of 500 feet; and in the spring of the year when the water diffuses itself into jets and falls from its pinnacles upon the green trees beneath, it presents miniature cascades with all the prismatic colors of the rainbow.

ENTRANCE TO NATURAL BRIDGE, ON CAYOTE CREEK, CALAVERAS COUNTY.

THERE are two of these bridges, situated between two and three miles below the town of Vallecito, and within half a mile of each other. The distance from the top of the bridges to the bottom of the stream below is some thirty or forty feet, with a height above the level of the water of eight and fifteen feet. They are decidedly a curiosity, and present the spectacle of numerous stalactites depending from their arches, of various pleasing shapes and colors. These bridges contain caves with several different compartments.

SAN ANDREAS.

SAN ANDREAS is a thriving little village situated at the junction of the Sacramento and Stockton stage roads, in Calaveras county, about ten miles from Mokelumne Hill. It was settled in 1850, and is in a rich placer mining region. A large number of persons are engaged in the diggings. The village contains some excellent buildings. Miners have usually prospered in this vicinity. Their supply of water has been furnished from ditches leading from the different branches of the Calaveras river, although, during the summer season it becomes scarce. The town, among other places of amusement, contains a theater.

PILOT PEAK AND ONION VALLEY.

A few years ago, the lover of the sublime in scenery was accustomed to regard the Andes, Vesuvius, Popocatepetl, and a few other mountains of the Old World, South America and Mexico, with the same profound veneration that the devout Mahomedan regards the tomb of the Prophet—places for pilgrimage, prodigies in nature, where God had been chiefly glorified in his works, and presented monuments of divine architecture no where else to be found. Experience and discovery have corrected this popular error. Without aspiring to competition in the altitude of its mountains with those named, California yet presents an array of isolated peaks which tower into the heavens, attracting the eye of the voyager hundreds of miles out at sea, reflecting the light of their snow-capped summits against the clouds, with which they mantle themselves in the twilight and retire gradually from human sight.

Pilot Peak, the subject of our present sketch, on a clear day, is plainly visible from Shasta Buttes, a distance of three hundred miles. It is situated at the head of Onion Valley, in Plumas county, about ninety miles northeast of Marysville, and has an altitude of 12,000 feet above the level of the sea.

Onion Valley lies at the base of the side hills of Pilot Peak, as represented by the village in the picture. In 1851 it contained nearly three thousand inhabitants, but has diminished to a mere skeleton of its former plethoric dimensions. The wagon road leading into the valley terminates here.

Onion Valley forms a nucleus to the mining on the south and middle forks of Feather river, Poor Man's creek, Hopkin's creek, Wilson's creek, Dickson creek, Jackson creek, Gold Hill and Ohio Ravine. Its supplies of merchandise and provisions are drawn from Marysville.

SECOND STREET BLOCK.

The buildings comprising the block on the west side of Second, between J and K streets, and which are represented in the accompanying cut, are known by the name of the Second Street Block. With one exception these edifices are built of brick, and there is no block in the city that surpasses them, either in solidity, beauty, or the extent of their dimensions. The building on the corner of J and Second streets is occupied by B. F. Hastings & Co., bankers, Wormser & Co., clothing store, Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express, and the upper story as lawyers' offices. The adjoining frame is occupied as a barber shop, and by Wright, as a drinking saloon. The massive establishment of Adams & Co., with its splendid granite front, comes next. In this building are the offices of the Alta and State Telegraph Companies. Adjoining Adams & Co. is the Orleans Hotel, the largest and most elegant hotel in the State above the city of San Francisco. On the corner of K street stands the banking house of Rhodes & Co. In the distance appears the tower of Sacramento Engine house, No. 3.

In the foreground of the picture can be seen coaches leaving the "Orleans," which is the great headquarters of the California Stage Company, and the point from which all the stages for the mining country take their departure. This block being in the center of the business portion of the city, the street often presents scenes of bustle and activity seldom witnessed elsewhere, even in California.

IOWA HILL.

"THE RICH CLAIM" at Iowa Hill was first opened sometime in December, 1852, and known at that time as Kennedy's Claim. After it had been worked to some extent, the present company purchased it as a right of way, and penetrated some distance further into the hill, until now, when their works present quite an imposing appearance. The immense amount of surface earth has been removed by drast c power, until the banks are now over 100 feet in height. The sketch represents their mode of washing away their banks, which is by means of sluices. They have a tunnel 300 feet in length. As high as 212 ounces have been taken out of this claim in a single day. The company own fourteen claims, each claim being eighty feet square, so that years will elapse before they are exhausted. Shares have been sold as high as \$15,000. A "prospecting" tunnel has been cut into the bank, and the dirt is said to pay equally rich all the way through. Iowa Hill diggings, which were almost unknown three months since, now contains 2000 inhabitants.

KNIGHT'S FERRY.

Knight's Ferry is a crossing of the Stanislaus river, on the Stockton and Sonora road. It was established in March, 1849, by Mr. William Knight, previous to which it was a ford, for which it is still used during the summer months. On the demise of Mr. Knight, the ferry property passed into the hands of Messrs. Dent and Vantine, then sub-Indian Agents, who made many improvements on it. Subsequently it passed into the hands of Mr. Dent, who is at present its sole proprietor. About a mile above the ferry a grist-mill has been constructed.

Knight's Ferry has always been a favorite resort of the Stanislaus tribe of Indians, who occupy an extensive ranche in the near vicinity.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

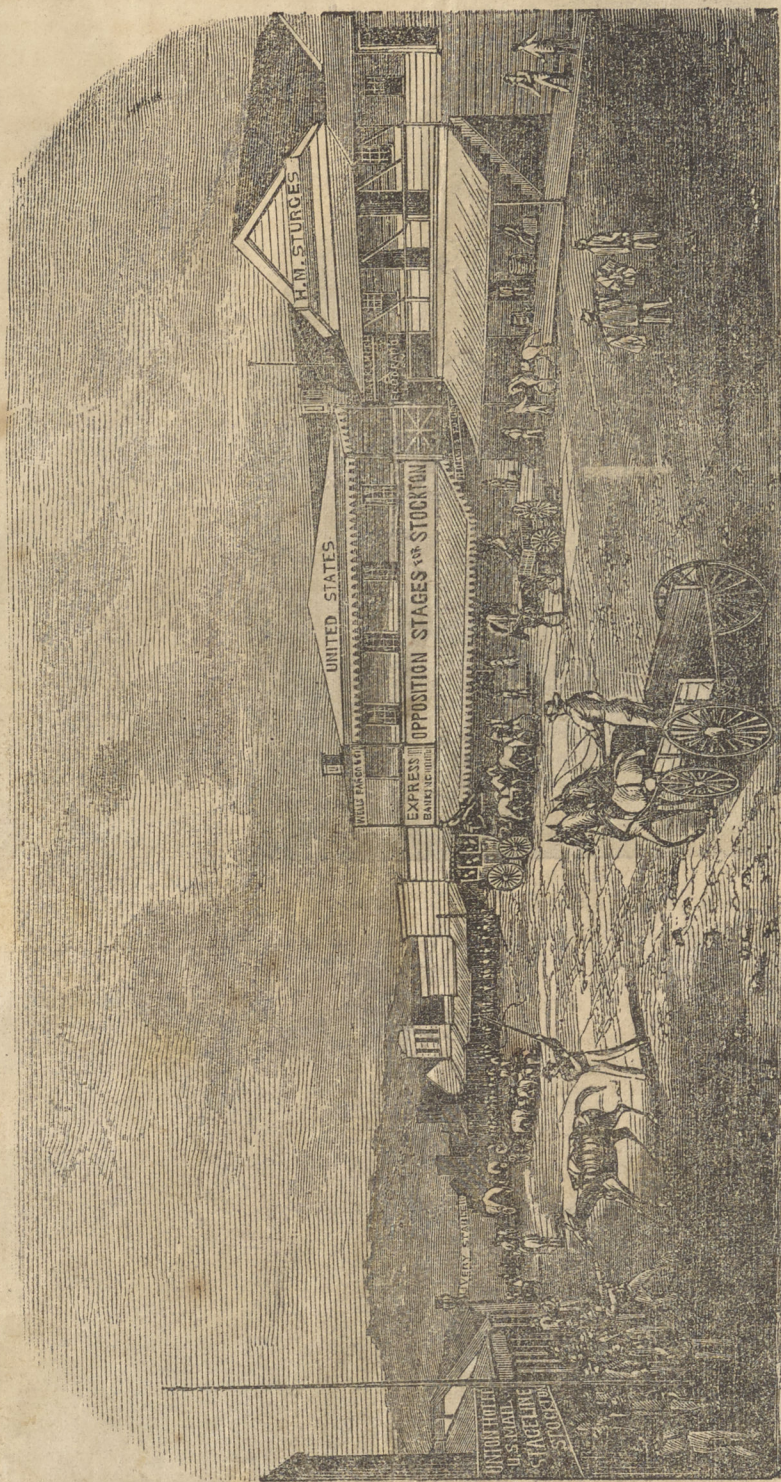
WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these, are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its power in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established, should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter former systems of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having, in direct object, the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world:

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large



MOKELEUNE HILL—No. 1.



MOKELEUNE HILL—No. 11.

districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature; a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the repository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing, with manly firmness, his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused, for a long time after such dissolution, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the State remaining, in the mean time, exposed to all the danger of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose, obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislature.

He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power.

He has combined, with others, to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us;
For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment, for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world;

For imposing taxes on us without our consent;

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury;

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences;

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies;

For taking away our charter, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering, fundamentally, the powers of our governments;

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun, with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow-citizens, taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction, of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress, in the most humble terms; our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts made by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them, by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and concanginity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we do the rest of mankind, enemies in war—in peace, friends.

We, therefore, the representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And, for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

JOHN HANCOCK.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

JOSIAH BARTLETT,
WILLIAM WHIPPLE,
MATTHEW THORNTON.

RHODE ISLAND.

STEPHEN HOPKINS,
WILLIAM ELLERY.

CONNECTICUT.

ROGER SHERMAN,
SAMUEL HUNTINGTON,
WILLIAM WILLIAMS,
OLIVER WOLCOTT.

NEW YORK.

WILLIAM FLOYD,
PHILIP LIVINGSTON,
FRANCIS LEWIS,
LEWIS MORRIS.

NEW JERSEY.

RICHARD STOCKTON,
JOHN WITHERSPOON,
FRANCIS HOPKINSON,
JOHN HART,
ABRAHAM CLARK.

PENNSYLVANIA.

ROBERT MORRIS,
BENJAMIN RUSH,
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,
JOHN MORTON,
GEORGE CLYMER,
JAMES SMITH,
GEORGE TAYLOR,
JAMES WILSON,
GEORGE ROSS.

MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

SAMUEL ADAMS,
JOHN ADAMS,
ROBERT TREAT PAINE,
ELBRIDGE GERRY.

DELAWARE.

CESAR RODNEY,
GEORGE READ,
THOMAS M'KEAN.

MARYLAND.

SAMUEL CHASE,
WILLIAM PACA,
THOMAS STONE,
C. CARROLL, of Carrollton.

VIRGINIA.

GEORGE WYTHE,
RICHARD HENRY LEE,
THOMAS JEFFERSON,
BENJAMIN HARRISON,
THOMAS NELSON, Jun.,
FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE,
CARTER BRAXTON.

NORTH CAROLINA.

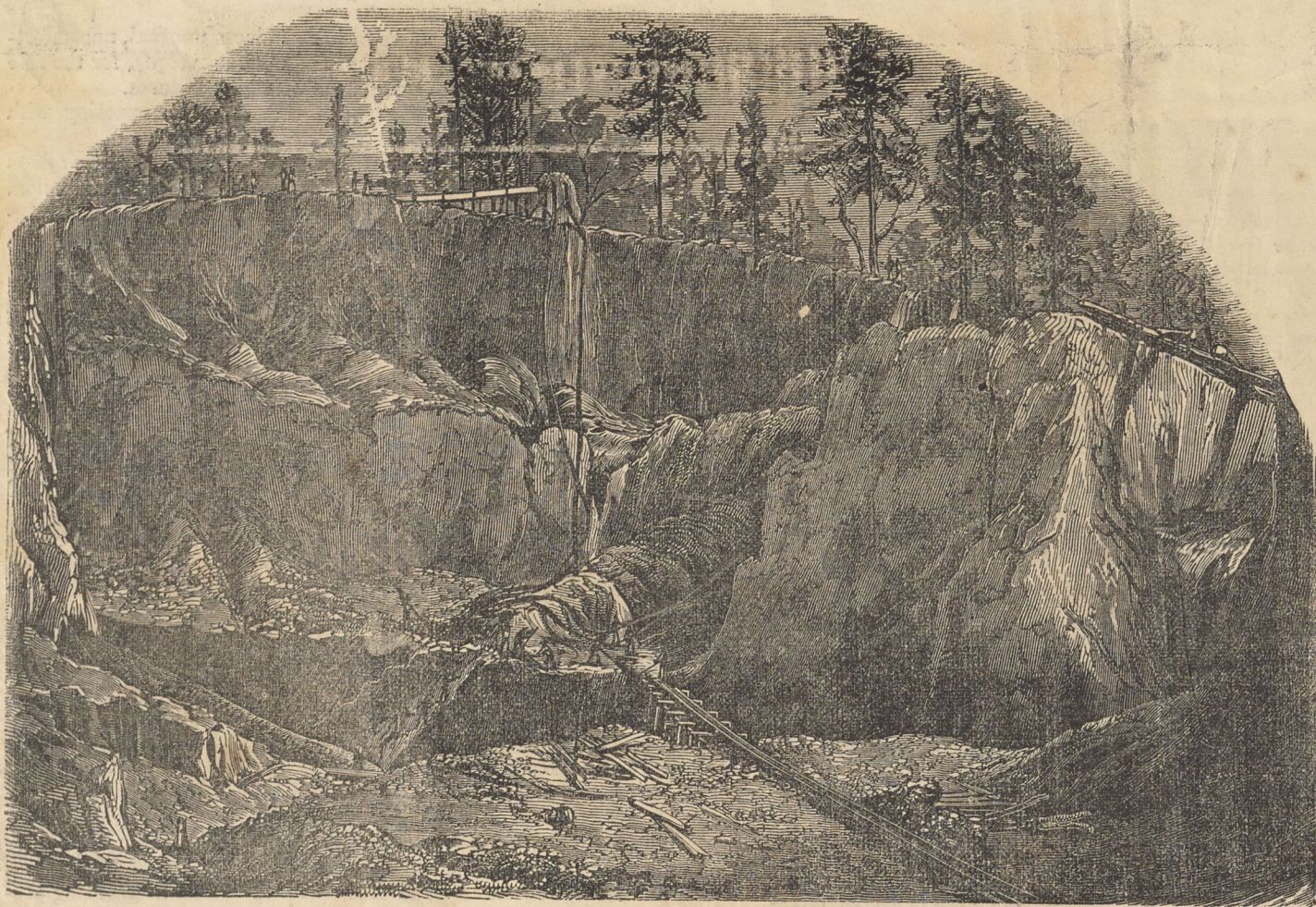
WILLIAM HOOPER,
JOSEPH HEWES,
JOHN PENN.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

EDWARD RUTLEDGE,
THOMAS HEYWARD, Jun.,
THOMAS LYNCH, Jun.,
ARTHUR MIDDLETON.

GEORGIA.

BUTTON GUINNETT,
LYMAN HALL,
GEORGE WALTON.



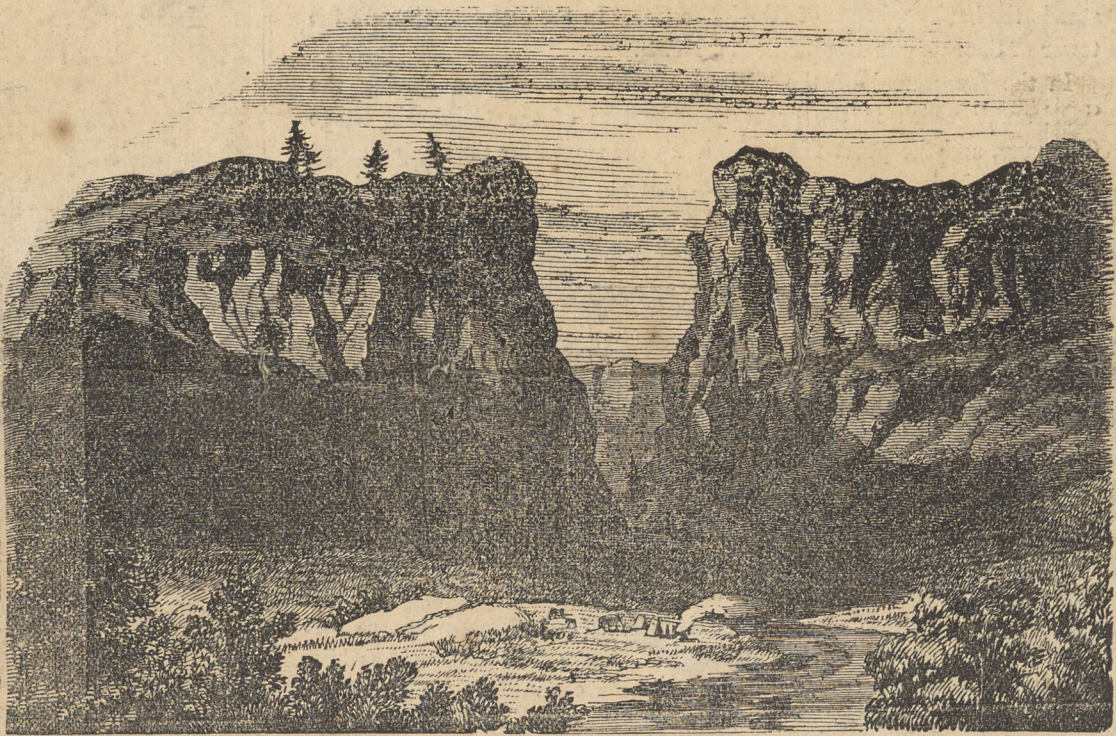
RICH CLADY, IOWA HILL.



MISSION OF SAN GABRIEL.



VIEW ON SECOND STREET, BETWEEN J AND K, SACRAMENTO.



DEVIL'S GATE, ON THE PLAINS.

BENNETT'S MASONIC BUILDING, represented in the accompanying engraving, is situated on the corner of J street and the alley, between First and Second streets. In beauty of design, as well as completeness of construction, it ranks among the most magnificent structures in the State. It is 40x70 feet, three stories in height, and built of the finest brick, and the front is intended to represent granite. The Masonic Fraternity have their rooms in this building, and the second story is occupied as lawyers' offices.

The METROPOLITAN BATHING ROOMS, under the management of J. H. Paull and A. A. Bennett, which, we venture to say, are unsurpassed in their arrangement and accommodations by any similar establishment on the Atlantic side, occupy the whole of the first floor of this edifice. This building is prominently situated on the main business thoroughfare of the town, and is an ornament to the city, as well as the street on which it stands.



READ'S BRICK BLOCK, CORNER J AND THIRD STREETS, SACRAMENTO.



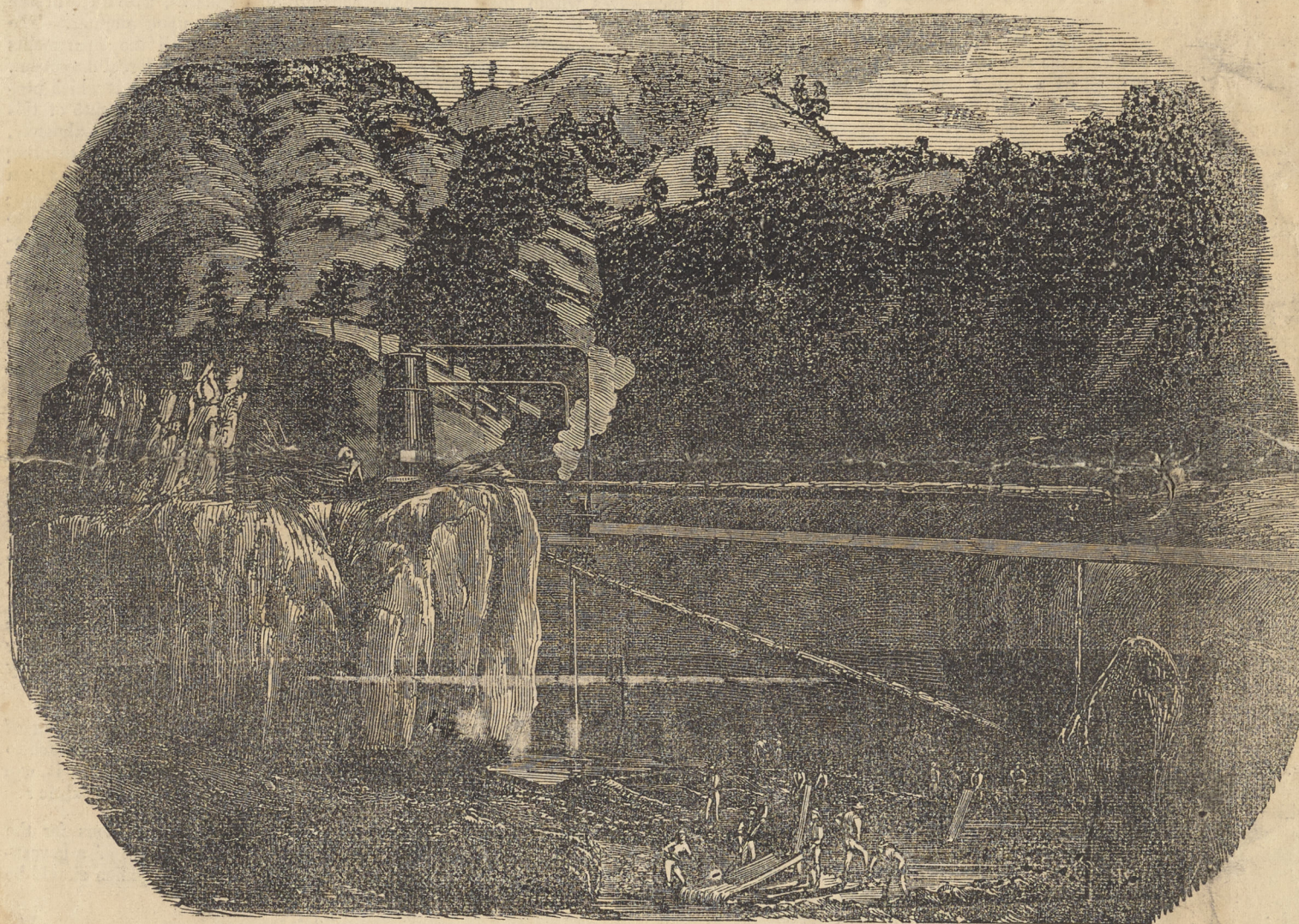
BENNETT'S MASONIC HALL, J STREET, SACRAMENTO.



CITY WATER WORKS BUILDING, SACRAMENTO.



WOODS' CROSSING AND DIGGINGS.



HAWKINS' BAR, TUOLUMNE RIVER.

J. E. MURDOCH, AS HAMLET.—Of the entire number of actors who have visited this State during the last five years, there is none who has attained a position more enviable than the subject of this notice. As a tragedian he has scarcely his equal on the stage; his elocutionary powers are wonderful, and readings are given with almost faultless accuracy. His commanding person, deep, sonorous, well modulated voice, ease of manner, and expressive countenance, all combine to render him one of the greatest and most attractive theatrical performers living.

The annexed engraving, sketched from a daguerreotype, represents him in the character of Hamlet. This is one of his favorite, as it is also one of his most popular and brilliant personations. The effectiveness of his acting, in many of the scenes of this play, is seen both in the hushed silence and uncontrollable applause of his auditors. The cut represents him in the act of uttering "the soliloquy," that sublime creation of the immortal bard.

His conception of the ideas of the immortal author, as conveyed by this splendid apostrophe, is exceedingly truthful, and his rendering of each word produces an effect which is indescribable. The soliloquy, as it falls from his lips, is the gem of this incomparable play.



J. E. MURDOCH, AS HAMLET.



INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR VIEWS OF NATURAL BRIDGE, CAYOTE CREEK, CALAVERAS COUNTY.

A GLORIOUS AMERICAN DOCUMENT!

FAREWELL ADDRESS

—OF—

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON,

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

September 17, 1796.

Friends and Fellow-Citizens:

The period for a new election of a citizen to administer the Executive Government of the United States being not far distant, and the time actually arrived when your thoughts must be employed in designating the person who is to be clothed with that important trust, it appears to me proper, especially as it may conduce to a more distinct expression of the public voice, that I should now apprise you of the resolution I have formed, to decline being considered among the number of those out of whom a choice is to be made.

I beg you, at the same time, to do me the justice to be assured that this resolution has not been taken without a strict regard to all the considerations appertaining to the relations which bind a dutiful citizen to his country; and that, in withdrawing the tender of service, which silence, in my situation, might imply, I am influenced by no diminution of zeal for your future interest; no deficiency of grateful respect for your past kindness; but am supported by a full conviction that the step is compatible with both.

The acceptance of, and the continuance heretofore in, the office to which your suffrages have twice called me, have been a uniform sacrifice of inclination to the opinion of duty, and to a deference for what appears to be your desire. I constantly hoped that it would have been much earlier in my power, consistently with motives which I was not at liberty to disregard, to return to that retirement from which I had been reluctantly drawn. The strength of my inclination to do this, previous to the last election, had even led to the preparation of an address to declare it to you; but mature reflection on the then perplexed and critical posture of our affairs with foreign nations, and the unanimous advice of persons entitled to my confidence, impelled me to abandon the idea.

I rejoice that the state of your concerns, external as well as internal, no longer renders the pursuit of inclination incompatible with the sentiment of duty or propriety; and am persuaded, whatever partiality may be retained for my services, that, in the present circumstances of our country, you will not disapprove my determination to retire.

The impressions with which I first undertook the arduous trust were explained on the proper occasion. In the discharge of this trust, I will only say, that I have with good intentions contributed towards the organization and administration of the Government the best exertions of which a very fallible judgment was capable. Not unconscious in the outset of the inferiority of my qualifications, experience, in my own eyes—perhaps still more in the eyes of others—has strengthened the motives to diffidence of myself; and every view of the increasing weight of your expectations, more and more, that the shade of retirement is as necessary to me as it will be welcome. Satisfied that if any circumstances have given peculiar value to my services, they were temporary, I have the consolation to believe that, while choice and prudence invite me to quit the political scene, patriotism does not forbid it.

In looking forward to the moment which is intended to terminate the career of my public life, my feelings do not permit me to suspend the deep acknowledgment of that debt of gratitude which I owe to my beloved country for the many honors it has conferred upon me; still more for the steadfast confidence with which it has supported me; and for the opportunities I have thence enjoyed of manifesting my inviolable attachment, by services faithful and persevering, though in usefulness unequal to my zeal. If benefits have resulted to our country from these services, let it always be remembered to your praise, and as an instructive example in your annals that, under circumstances in which the passions, agitated in every direction, were liable to mislead; amidst appearances sometimes dubious, vicissitudes of fortune often discouraging; in situations in which, not unfrequently, want of success has countenanced the spirit of criticism,—the constancy of your support was the essential prop of the efforts, and a guarantee of the plans, by which they were effected. Profoundly penetrated with this idea, I shall carry it with me to the grave, as a strong incitement to unceasing vows, that Heaven may continue to you the choicest tokens of its benediction; that your union and brotherly affection may be perpetual; that the free Constitution, which is the work of your hands, may be sacredly maintained; that its administration, in every department, may be stamped with wisdom and virtue; that, in fine, the happiness of the people of these States, under the auspices of liberty, may be made complete, by so careful a preservation and so prudent a use of this blessing as will acquire to them the glory of recommending it to the applause, the affection, and the adoption of every nation which is yet a stranger to it.

Here, perhaps, I ought to stop; but a solicitude for your welfare, which cannot end but with my life, and the apprehension of danger natural to that solicitude, urge me, on an occasion like the present, to offer to your solemn contemplation, and to recommend to your frequent review, some sentiments which are the result of much reflection, of no inconsiderable observation, and which appear to me all-important to the permanency of your felicity as a people. These will be afforded to you with the more freedom, as you can only see in them the disinterested warnings of a parting friend, who can possibly have no personal motives to bias his counsel; nor can I forget, as an encouragement to it, your indulgent reception of my sentiments on a former and not dissimilar occasion.

Interwoven as is the love of liberty with every ligament of your hearts, no recommendation of mine is necessary to fortify or confirm the attachment.

The unity of government, which constitutes you one people, is also now dear to you. It is justly so; for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence—the support of your tranquility at home, your peace abroad, of your safety, of your prosperity, of that very liberty which you so highly prize. But as it is easy to foresee that, from different causes and from different quarters, much pains may be taken, many artifices employed, to weaken in your minds the conviction of this truth; and this is the point in your political fortress against which the batteries of internal and external enemies will be most constantly and actively (though often covertly and insidiously) directed,—it is of infinite moment that you should properly estimate the immense value of your National Union to your collective and individual happiness; that you should cherish a cordial, habitual, and immovable attachment to it; accustoming yourselves to think and speak of it as of the palladium of your political safety and prosperity; watching for its preservation with jealous anxiety; discountenancing whatever may suggest even a suspicion that it can, in any event, be abandoned; and indignantly frowning upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts.

For this you have every inducement of sympathy and interest. Citizens by birth or choice, of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of American, which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have, in a common cause, fought and triumphed together; the independence and liberty you possess are the work of joint councils and joint efforts, of common dangers, sufferings, and successes.

But these considerations, however powerfully they address themselves to your sensibility, are greatly outweighed by those which apply more immediately to your interest; here every portion of our country find the most commanding motives for carefully guarding and preserving the union of the whole.

The North, in an unrestricted intercourse with the South, protected by the equal laws of a common government, finds, in the productions of the latter, great additional resources of maritime and commercial enterprise, and precious materials of manufacturing industry. The South, in the same intercourse, benefiting by the agency of the North, sees its agriculture grow, and its commerce expand. Turning partly into its own channels the seamen of the North, it finds its particular navigation invigorated; and while it contributes, in different ways, to nourish and increase the general mass of the national navigation, it looks forward to the protection of a maritime strength to which itself is unequally adapted. The East, in like intercourse with the West, already finds, in the progressive improvement of interior communication, by land and water, will more and more find, a valuable vent for the commodity which it brings from abroad, or manufactures at home. The West derives from the East supplies requisite to its growth and comfort; and what is perhaps of still greater consequence, it must, of necessity, owe the secure enjoyment of indispensable outlets for its own productions, to the weight, influence, and the future maritime strength of the Atlantic side of the Union, directed by an indissoluble community of interest as one nation. Any other tenure by which the West can hold this essential advantage, whether derived from its own separate strength, or from an apostate and unnatural connection with any foreign power, must be intrinsically precarious.

While, then, every part of our country thus feels an immediate and particular interest in union, all the parts combined cannot fail to find, in the united mass of means and efforts, greater strength, greater resource, proportionally greater security from external danger, a less frequent interruption of their peace by foreign nations; and what is of inestimable value, they must derive from union an exemption from those broils and wars between themselves, which so frequently afflict neighboring countries, not tied together by the same government; which their own rivalships alone would be sufficient to produce, but which opposite foreign alliances, attachments, and intrigues, would stimulate and embitter. Hence, likewise, they will avoid the necessity of those overgrown military establishments, which, under any form of government, are inauspicious to liberty, and which are to be regarded as particularly hostile to republican liberty; in this sense it is that your union ought to be considered as a main prop of your liberty, and that the love of the one ought to endear to you the preservation of the other.

These considerations speak a persuasive language to every reflecting and virtuous mind, and exhibit the continuance of the Union as a primary object of patriotic desire. Is there a doubt whether a common government can embrace so large a sphere? Let experience solve it. To listen to mere speculations, in such a case, were criminal. We are authorized to hope, that a proper organization of the whole, with the auxiliary agency of governments for the respective subdivisions, will afford a happy issue to the experiment. It is well worth a fair and full experiment. With such powerful and obvious motives to Union, affecting all parts of our country, while experience shall not have demonstrated its impracticability, there will always be reason to distrust the patriotism of those, who, in any quarter, may endeavor to weaken its bands.

In contemplating the causes which may disturb our Union, it occurs, as a matter of serious concern, that any ground should have been furnished for characterizing parties by geographical discriminations—Northern and Southern—Atlantic and Western: whence designing men may endeavor to excite a belief that there is a real difference of local interests and views. One of the expedients of party to acquire influence within particular districts, is to misrepresent the opinions and aims of other districts. You cannot shield yourselves too much against the jealousies and heart-burnings which spring from these misrepresentations; they tend to render alien to each other those who ought to be bound together by fraternal affection. The inhabitants of our western country have lately had a useful lesson on this head; they have seen in the negotiations of the Spaniards, and in the unanimous ratification by the Senate, of the treaty with Spain, and in the universal satisfaction at that event throughout the United States, a decisive proof how unfounded were the suspicions propagated among them of a policy in the General Government, and in the Atlantic States, unfriendly to their interests in regard to the Mississippi: they have been witnesses to the formation of two treaties—that with Great Britain, and that with Spain, which secure to them every thing they could desire in respect to our foreign relations, towards confirming their prosperity. Will it not be their wisdom to rely for the preservation of these advantages on the Union by which they were procured? Will they not henceforth be deaf to those advisers, if such there are, who would sever them from their brethren, and connect them with aliens?

To the efficacy and permanency of your Union, a Government for the whole is indispensable. No alliance, however strict between the parts, can be an adequate substitute; they must inevitably experience the infractions and interruptions which all alliances, in all time, have experienced. Sensible of this momentous truth, you have improved upon your first essay, by the adoption of a Constitution of Government better calculated than your former for an intimate Union, and for the efficacious management of your common concerns. This Government, the offspring of your own choice, uninfluenced and unawed, adopted upon full investigation and mature deliberation, completely free in its principles, in the distribution of its powers, uniting security with energy, and containing within itself a provision for its own amendment, has a just claim to your confidence and your support. Respect for its authority, compliance with its laws, acquiescence in its measures, are duties enjoined by the fundamental maxims of true liberty. The basis of our political systems, is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of Government: but the Constitution which at any time exists, till changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all. The very idea of the power, and the right of the people to establish Government, pre-supposes the duty of every individual to obey the established Government.

All obstructions to the execution of the laws, all combinations and associations, under whatever plausible character, with the real design to direct, control, counteract, or awe the regular deliberation and action of the constituted authorities, are destructive to this fundamental principle, and of fatal tendency. They serve to organize faction, to give it an artificial and extraordinary force, to put in the place of the delegated will of the nation, the will of a party, of but a small or artful and enterprising minority of the community; and, according to the alternate triumphs of different parties, to make the public administration the mirror of the ill-concerted and incongruous projects of faction, rather than the organ of consistent and wholesome plans, digested by common councils, and modified by mutual interests.

However combinations or associations of the above description may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely, in the course of time and things, to become potent engines, by which cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men, will be enabled to subvert the power of the people, and to usurp for themselves the reins of Government; destroying, afterwards, the very engines which had lifted them to unjust dominion.

Towards the preservation of your Government, and the permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite, not only that you steadily discountenance irregular oppositions to its acknowledged authority, but also that you resist with care the spirit of innovation upon its principles, however specious the pretexes. One method of assault may be to effect, in the forms of the Constitution, alterations which will impair the energy of the system, and thus to undermine what cannot be directly overthrown. In all the changes to which you may be invited, remember that time and habit are at least as necessary to fix the true character of governments as of other human institutions; that experience is the surest standard by which to test the real tendency of the existing constitution of a country; that facility in changes, upon the credit of mere hypothesis and opinion, exposes to perpetual change, from the endless variety of hypothesis and opinion; and remember, especially, that for the efficient management of your common interests, in a country so extensive as ours, a Government of as much vigor as is consistent with the perfect security of liberty, is indispensable. Liberty itself will find in such a Government, with powers properly distributed and adjusted, its surest guardian. It is, indeed, little else than a name, where the Government is too feeble to withstand the enterprises of faction, to confine each member of the society within the limits prescribed by the laws, and to maintain all in the secure and tranquil enjoyment of the rights of person and property.

I have already intimated to you the danger of parties in the State, with particular reference to the founding of them on geographical discriminations. Let me now take a more comprehensive view, and warn you, in the most solemn manner, against the baneful effects of the spirit of party generally.

The spirit, unfortunately, is inseparable from our nature, having its root in the strongest passions of the human mind. It exists under different shapes, in all Governments, more or less stifled, controlled, or repressed; but in those of the popular form it is seen in its greatest rankness, and is truly their worst enemy.

The alternate domination of one faction over another, sharpened by the spirit of revenge, natural to party dissensions, which, in different ages and countries, has perpetrated the most horrid enormities, is itself a frightful despotism. But this leads, at length to a more formal and permanent despotism. The disorder and miseries which result, gradually incline the minds of men to seek security and repose in the absolute power of an individual; and, sooner or later, the chief of some prevailing faction, more able or more fortunate than his competitors, turns this disposition to the purposes of his own elevation on the ruins of public liberty.

Without looking forward to an extremity of this kind (which, nevertheless, ought not to be entirely out of sight,) the common and continual mischiefs of the spirit of party are sufficient to make it the interest and duty of a wise people to discourage and restrain it.

It serves always to distract the public councils, and enfeeble the public administration. It agitates the community with ill-founded jealousies and false alarms; kindles the animosities of one part against another; foment, occasionally, riot and insurrection. It opens the door to foreign influence and corruption, which find a facilitated access to the Government itself, through the channels of party passions. Thus the policy and the will of one country are subjected to the policy and will of another.

There is an opinion that parties, in free countries, are useful checks upon the administration of the Government, and serve to keep alive the spirit of liberty. This, within certain limits, is probably true; and in Governments of a monarchical cast, patriotism may look with indulgence, if not with favor, upon the spirit of party. But in those of the popular character, in Governments purely elective, it is a spirit not to be encouraged. From their natural tendency, it is certain there will always be enough of that spirit for every salutary purpose. And there being constant danger of excess, the effort ought to be, by force of public opinion, to mitigate and assuage it. A fire not to be quenched, it demands a uniform vigilance to prevent its bursting into a flame, lest, instead of warming, it should consume.

It is important, likewise, that the habits of thinking, in a free country, should inspire caution in those entrusted with its administration, to confine themselves within their respective constitutional spheres, avoiding, in the exercise of the powers of one department, to encroach upon another. The spirit of encroachment tends to consolidate the powers of all the departments in one, and thus to create, whatever the form of government, a real despotism. A just estimate of that love of power, and proneness to abuse it which predominates in the human heart, is sufficient to satisfy us of the truth of this position. The necessity of reciprocal checks in the exercise of political power, by dividing and distributing it into different depositories, and constituting each the guardian of the public weal, against invasions by the others, has been evinced by experiments, ancient and modern; some of them in our own country, and under our own eyes. To preserve them must be as necessary as to institute them. If, in the opinion of the people, the distribution or modification of the constitutional powers be, in any particular, wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way which the Constitution designates. But let there be no change by usurpation; for though this, in one instance, may be the instrument of good, it is the customary weapon by which free Governments are destroyed. The precedent must always greatly overbalance, in permanent evil, any partial or transient benefit which the use can at any time yield.

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connexions with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles.

It is substantially true, that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government. The rule, indeed, extends with more or less force to every species of free government. Who, that is a sincere friend to it, can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?

Promote, then, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened.

As a very important source of strength and security, cherish public credit. One method of preserving it is to use it as sparingly as possible; avoiding occasions of expense by cultivating peace, but remembering also that timely disbursements to prepare for danger, frequently prevent much greater disbursements to repel it; avoiding, likewise, the accumulation of debt, not only by shunning occasions of expense, but by vigorous exertions in time of peace to discharge the debts which unavoidable wars may have occasioned; not ungenerously throwing upon posterity the burden which we ourselves ought to bear. The execution of these maxims belongs to your representatives, but it is necessary that public opinion should co-operate. To facilitate to them the performance of their duty, it is essential that you should practically bear in mind, that towards the payment of debts there must be revenue; that to have revenue there must be taxes; that no taxes can be devised, which are not more or less inconvenient and unpleasant; that the intrinsic embarrassment inseparable from the selection of the proper objects (which is always a choice of difficulties) ought to be a decisive motive for a candid construction of the conduct of the Government in making it, and for a spirit of acquiescence in the measures for obtaining revenue, which the public exigencies may at any time dictate.

Observe good faith and justice towards all nations; cultivate peace and harmony with all; religion and morality enjoin this conduct; and can it be that good policy does not equally enjoin it? It will be worthy of a free, enlightened, and, at no distant period, a great nation, to give to mankind the magnanimous and too novel example of a people always guided by an exalted justice and benevolence. Who can doubt that, in the course of time and things, the fruits of such a plan would richly repay any temporary advantages which might be lost by a steady adherence to it? Can it be that Providence has not connected the permanent felicity of a nation with its virtue? The experiment, at least, is recommended by every sentiment, which ennobles human nature. Alas! it is rendered impossible by its vices!

In the execution of such a plan, nothing is more essential than that permanent inveterate antipathies against particular nations, and passionate attachments for others, should be excluded; and that, in place of them, just and amicable feelings towards all should be cultivated. The nation which indulges towards another an habitual hatred, or an habitual fondness, is, in some degree, a slave. It is a slave to its animosity or to its affection; either of which is sufficient to lead it astray from its duty and its interest. Antipathy, in one nation against another, disposes each more readily to offer insult and injury, to lay hold of slight causes of umbrage, and to be haughty and intractable, when accidental or trifling occasions of dispute occur. Hence frequent collisions, obstinate, envenomed, and bloody contests. The nation, prompted by ill-will and resentment, sometimes impels to war the Government, contrary to the best calculations of policy. The Government sometimes participates in the national propensity, and adopts, through passion, what reason would reject; at other times it makes the animosity of the nation subservient to projects of hostility, instigated by pride, ambition, and other sinister and pernicious motives. The peace often, sometimes perhaps the liberty, of nations has been the victim.

So, likewise, a passionate attachment of one nation to another produces a

variety of evils. Sympathy for the favorite nation, facilitating the illusion of an imaginary common interest, in cases where no real common interest exists, and infusing into one the enmities of the other, betrays the former into a participation in the quarrels and wars of the latter, without adequate inducement or justification. It leads also to concessions to the favorite nation of privileges denied to others, which is apt doubly to injure the nation making the concessions; by unnecessarily parting with what ought to have been retained, and by exciting jealousy, ill will, and a disposition to retaliate, in the parties from whom equal privileges are withheld; and it gives to ambitious, corrupted, or deluded citizens (who devote themselves to the favorite nation) facility to betray, or sacrifice the interest of their own country, without odium; sometimes even with popularity; gilding with the appearance of a virtuous sense of obligation, a commendable deference for public opinion, or a laudable zeal for public good, the base or foolish compliances of ambition, corruption or infatuation.

As avenues to foreign influence in innumerable ways, such attachments are particularly alarming to the truly enlightened and independent patriot. How many opportunities do they afford to tamper with domestic factions, to practice the art of seduction, to mislead public opinion, to influence or awe the public councils! Such an attachment of a small or weak, towards a great and powerful nation, dooms the former to be the satellite of the latter.

Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence (I conjure you to believe me fellow citizens,) the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake; since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of republican government. But that jealousy, to be useful, must be impartial; else it becomes the instrument of the very influence to be avoided, instead of a defence against it. Excessive partiality for a foreign nation, and excessive dislike for another, cause those whom they actuate to see danger only on one side, and serve to veil, and even second, the arts of influence on the other. Real patriots, who may resist the intrigues of the favorite, are liable to become suspected and odious; while his tools and dupes usurp the applause and confidence of the people, to surrender their interests.

The great rule of conduct for us, in regard to foreign nations, is, in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connexion as possible. So far as we have already formed engagements, let them be fulfilled with perfect good faith. Here let us stop.

Europe has a set of primary interests, which to us have none, or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence, therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves, by artificial ties, in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics, or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities.

Our detached and distant situation invites and enables us to pursue a different course. If we remain one people, under an efficient Government, the period is not far off when we may defy material injury from external annoyance; when we may take such an attitude as will cause the neutrality we may at any time resolve upon, to be scrupulously respected; when belligerent nations, under the impossibility of making acquisitions upon us, will not lightly hazard the giving us provocation; when we may choose peace or war, as our interest, guided by justice, shall counsel.

Why forego the advantages of so peculiar a situation? Why quit our own to stand upon foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rivalry, interest, humor, or caprice?

It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world; so far, I mean, as we are now at liberty to do it; for let me not be understood as capable of patronising infidelity to existing engagements. I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs, that honesty is always the best policy. I repeat it, therefore, let those engagements be observed in their genuine sense. But, in my opinion, it is unnecessary, and would be unwise to extend them.

Taking care always to keep ourselves, by suitable establishments, on a respectable defensive posture, we may safely trust to temporary alliances for extraordinary emergencies.

Harmony, and a liberal intercourse with all nations, are recommended by policy, humanity, and interest. But even our commercial policy should hold an equal and impartial hand; neither seeking nor granting exclusive favors or preferences; consulting the natural course of things; diffusing and diversifying by gentle means, the streams of commerce, but forcing nothing; establishing, with powers so disposed, in order to give trade a stable course, to define the rights of our merchants, and to enable the Government to support them, conventional rules of intercourse, the best that present circumstances and mutual opinions will permit, but temporary, and liable to be, from time to time, abandoned or varied as experience and circumstances shall dictate; constantly keeping in view, that it is folly in one nation to look for disinterested favors from another, that it must pay, with a portion of its independence, for whatever it may accept under that character; that by such acceptance it may place itself in the condition of having given equivalents for nominal favors, and yet of being reproached with ingratitude for not giving more. There can be no greater error than to expect, or calculate upon, real favors from nation to nation. It is an illusion which experience must cure, which a just pride ought to discard.

In offering to you, my countrymen, these counsels of an old and affectionate friend, I dare not hope they will make the strong and lasting impression I could wish; that they will control the usual current of the passions, or prevent our nation from running the course which has hitherto marked the destiny of nations; but if I may even flatter myself that they may be productive of some partial benefit, some occasional good; that they may now and then recur to moderate the fury of party spirit, to warn against the mischiefs of foreign intrigues, to guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism; this hope will be a full recompense for the solicitude for your welfare by which they have been dictated.

How far, in the discharge of my official duties, I have been guided by the principles which have been delineated, the public records, and other evidences of my conduct, must witness to you and the world. To myself, the assurance of my own conscience is, that I have at least believed myself to be guided by them.

In relation to the still subsisting war in Europe, my proclamation of the 22d of April, 1793, is the index of my plan. Sanctioned by your approving voice, and by that of your Representatives in both Houses of Congress, the spirit of that measure has continually governed me, uninfluenced by any attempts to deter or divert me from it.

After deliberate examination, with the aids of the best lights I could obtain, I was well satisfied that our country, under all the circumstances of the case, had a right to take, and was bound in duty and interest to take, a neutral position. Having taken it I determined, as far as should depend upon me, to maintain it with moderation, perseverance, and firmness.

The considerations which respect the right to hold this conduct, it is not necessary on this occasion to detail. I will only observe, that, according to my understanding of the matter, that right, so far from being denied by any of the belligerent powers, has been virtually admitted by all.

The duty of holding a neutral conduct may be inferred, without any thing more, from the obligation which justice and humanity impose on every nation, in cases in which it is free to act, to maintain inviolate the relations of peace and amity towards other nations.

The inducements of interest, for observing that conduct, will best be referred to your own reflections and experience. With me, a prominent motive has been to endeavor to gain time to our country to settle and mature its yet recent institutions, and to progress, without interruption, to that degree of strength and consistency necessary to give it, humanly speaking, the command of its own fortunes.

Though in reviewing the incidents of my administration, I am unconscious of intentional error; I am, nevertheless, too sensible of my defects to not think it probable that I may have committed many errors. Whatever they may be, I fervently beseech the Almighty to avert or mitigate the evils to which they may tend. I shall also carry with me the hope, that my country will never cease to view them with indulgence; and that, after forty-five years of my life dedicated to its service with an upright zeal, the faults of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivion, as myself must soon be to the mansions of rest.

Relying on its kindness in this, as in other things, and actuated by that fervent love towards it which is so natural to a man who views in it the native soil of himself and his progenitors for several generations, I anticipate, with pleasing expectations, that retreat in which I promise myself to realize, without alloy, the sweet enjoyment of partaking, in the midst of my fellow-citizens, the benign influence of good laws under a free Government—the ever favorite object of my heart—and the happy reward, as I trust, of our mutual cares, labors, and dangers.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

UNITED STATES, Sept. 17, 1796.



SACRAMENTO, FROM THE R STREET LEVEE.



NELSON'S POINT, MIDDLE FORK FEATHER RIVER.



WOOD'S CREEK.



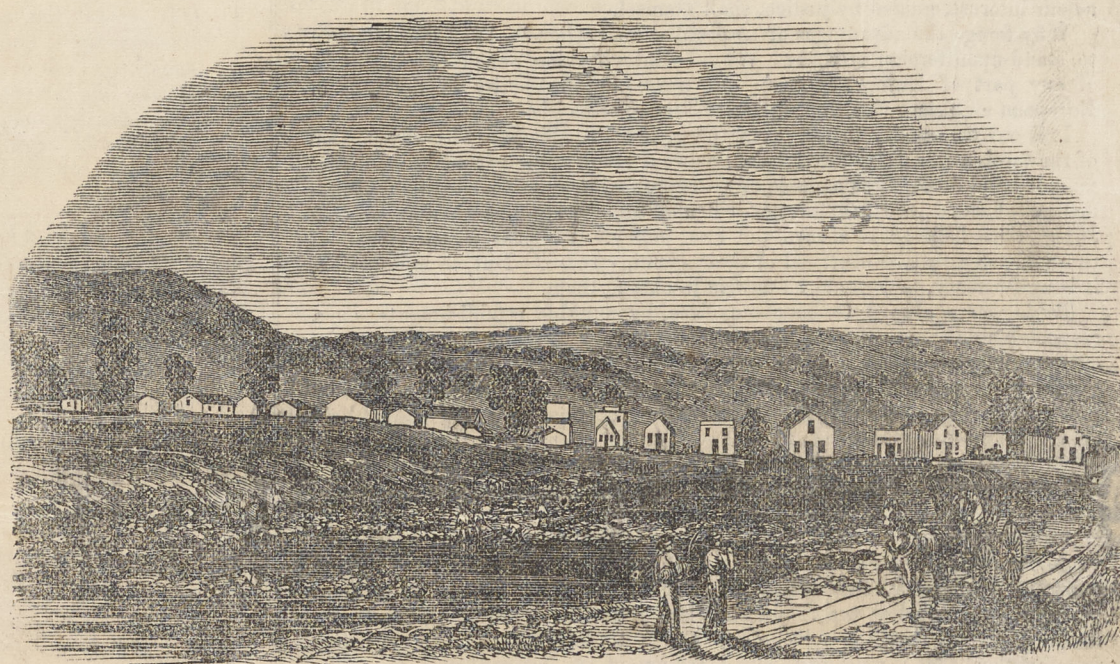
DRYTOWN.



ONION VALLEY.



JACKSON.



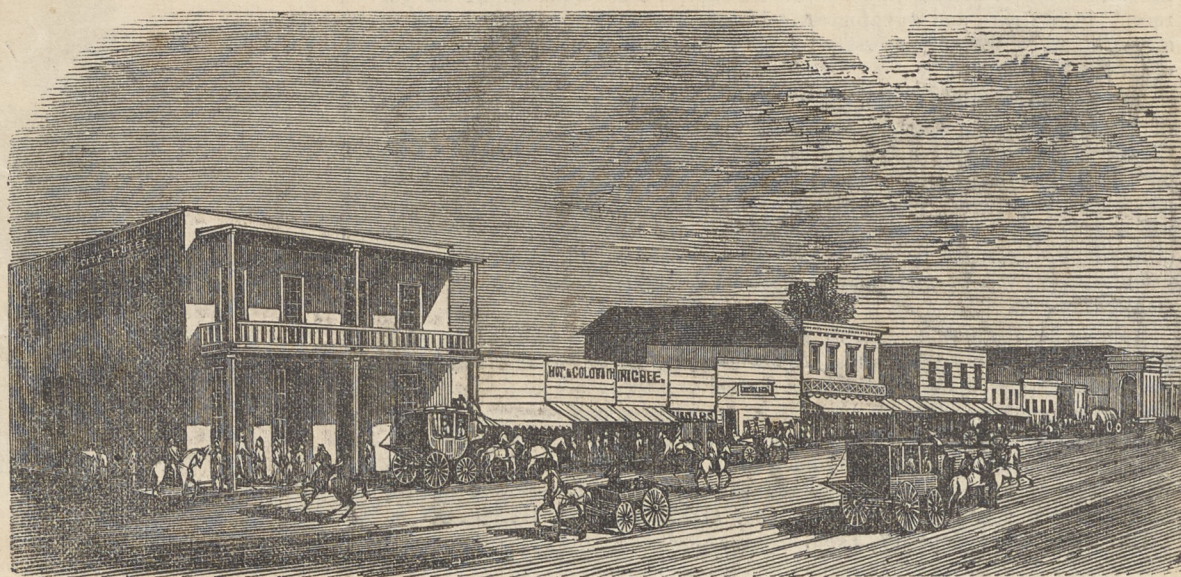
MONTEZUMA.



KNIGHT'S FERRY, STANISLAUS RIVER.



HANSONVILLE.



SONORA.